

Claim Listing

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

1. (currently amended) A sustained-release pharmaceutical composition comprising granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (G-CSF), polyol:oil and a thickener, where said composition is prepared by a process which comprises:

(a) mixing a solution of G-CSF in a polyol [[:]] to form a G-CSF:polyol composition;

(b) suspending said G-CSF:polyol composition in a composition comprising a thickened oil as a thickener wherein the level of said polyol is in the range from 15%-30% by weight.

2. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 wherein said polyol is a biocompatible polyol is selected from the group consisting of glycerol, erythritol, arabinose, xylose, ribose, inositol, fructose, galactose, maltose, glucose, mannose, and sucrose.

3. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 wherein said oil of said polyol:oil is selected from the group consisting of sesame, castor, cottonseed, canola, saffron, olive, peanut, sunflower seed, a-tocopherol, Miglyol 812, and ethyl oleate.

4. (previously presented)The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 13 wherein the thickener is aluminum monostearate.

5. (previously presented)The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 13 wherein the thickener is white wax.

6-7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A process for preparing a sustained-release pharmaceutical composition ~~compositions~~ of G-CSF:polyol:oil which comprises:

(a) mixing a solution of G-CSF in a polyol to form a G-CSF:polyol composition;

(b) suspending said G-CSF:polyol composition in a composition comprising a thickened oil wherein the level of said polyol in said composition comprising a thickened oil suspension is in the range from 15%-30% by weight.

9-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 wherein the thickener is selected from the group consisting of ~~fatty acids~~, polyvalent metal salts of organic acids, alcohols, waxes and high-viscosity oils.

14. (previously presented)The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 further comprising a stabilizer selected from the group consisting of a surfactant and an emulsifier.

15. (previously presented)The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 wherein the solution of G-CSF comprises a solvent selected from the group consisting of water and glycerol.

16. (previously presented)The process of Claim 8 wherein the solution of G-CSF comprises a solvent selected from the group consisting of water and glycerol.

17. (previously presented)The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 wherein said thickened oil comprises hydrogenated vegetable oil.